(2) HAVOC CAUSED BY CYCLONE.

திரு. து. ப. அழகமுத்து: தலைவர் அவர்களே, இம்மாநிலத்தில் அண்மையில் ஏற்பட்ட புயலும், பெரும் மழையும் அவற்றின் விளைவான சேதாரங்களும் பற்றிய அவசரப் பொது முக்கியத்துவம் வாய்ந்த விஷயத்தைக் கனம் முதலமைச்சர் அவர்களுடைய கவனத்திற்குக் கொண்டுவருகிறேன்.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: Mr. Speaker. a severe cyclonic storm which originally centred in the Bay of Bengal east of Nagapattinam was expected to cross the coast at Nagapattinam. But the storm changed its course and approached Madras City and actually crossed the coast on the afternoon of the 3rd November at about 3 p.m. at a place 30 miles south of Madras. From the early morning of the 3rd, the weather deteriorated considerably, along the coastal regions of Madras City, Chingleput and in the northern portion of South Arcot District. The wind speed increased rapidly and at times it was blowing at 80 to 100 miles per hour. The rainfall accompanying the storm was not so heavy in the City and in Chingleput district. But it was very heavy in the northern portion of South Arcot District. Tindivanam in 24 hours ended at 8 a.m. on the 4th recorded a rainfall of 212 mm. Considerable damage has been caused on account of the very high wind and very heavy rainfall. A large number of trees have been uprooted. All temporary and thatched constructions like huts and roofed buildings suffered considerable damage. It can be stated that in the Madras City and in the taluks of Saidapet, Chingleput and Madurantakam in Chingleput District and in the taluks of Tindivanam, Villupuram and Ginjee in South Arcot District, practically all huts have been razed to the ground. The figures of number of huts damaged like this are as follows :—

Madras City	7,500
Chingleput District	90,000
South Arcot District	5,000

The Collector of North Arcot has also reported destruction of 500 huts in Wandivash, Tiruvannamalai and Polur taluks.

Electrical installations and property of the Electricity Board including high tension lines have come in for severe damage. An exact estimate of the damage has not yet been arrived at. The Electricity Board is taking every effort to restore connections as expeditiously as possible to the affected areas.

The Telephone Department has also come in for severe damage. Telephone communications broke down completely in the City and in the affected areas. The Department is taking expeditious steps to restore the connections. The position has become practically normal in the city. The connections to the other areas are being given.

[Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam] [8th November 1966

Serious breaches have occurred in the roads running in Madurantakam, Tindivanam and Villupuram taluks, the damage being maximum in Tindivanam taluk.

Breaches or Scours have occurred in 7 roads in South Arcot, 4 in Chingleput and 2 in North Arcot. The principal roads affected are—

(1) Villupuram-Ginjee Road;

(2) Merkanam-Tindivanam-Ginjee Road;

(3) Chunampet Road;

(4) Pondy-Tindivanam Road;

(5) Madras-Trichy Trunk Road at miles 84 and 86; and

(6) Cuddalore-Chittoor Road near 54th mile (North Arcot).

All these breaches are expected to be closed by the end of this week.

The uprooted trees which had blocked the National Highways and roads have all been or are being cleared and the work will be completed very soon. The worst affected areas are the approaches to the bridge across Tondiyar at M. 85/1 of the National Highway. and to the bridge at M. 86/4 across Sankaraparni river. The approaches have been washed away for a length of 100 feet on either side due to breaches of Veedur Reservoir. The black-topping surface has been badly scoured, and its width has been reduced. The uprooted trees in Mailam-Pondicherry road have been cleared, and through traffic to South from Madras can be resumed through this road, but only after the overflowing of the Sankaraparni causeway at Villianur in Pondicherry State subsides. It is expected that this would have become fordable by now. Government have also contacted the Government of Pondicherry who have kindly taken all steps to see that the obstructions on the road in Pondicherry limits are all cleared for through traffic to take this diversion.

The road, Cuddalore to Pondicherry, is cut off due to heavy breaches within the Pondicherry State limit.

All other breaches are also being attended to expeditiously. Government have strengthened the staff for this purpose.

The Superintending Engineer (Highways), Madras is camping at Tindivanam and attending to the closing of breaches on the National Highways.

The roads are free for traffic in the Saidapet and Chingleput divisions. The breaches in Madurantakam area will be attended to as soon as the water subsides.

At the request of the State Government, the Southern Railways have already arranged to run a special shuttle service between Tindivanam-Villupuram to clear the traffic with effect from mid-day on 7th November 1966.

8th November 1966] [Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam]

A number of tanks have breached in Madurantakam, Tindivanam and Villupuram taluks and to a lesser extent in Wandiwash, Polur and Tiruvannamalai taluks of North Arcot district. The number of major and minor tanks breached are as follows :—

Chingleput district	138
South Arcot district	150
North Arcot district	35

The Vidur Reservoir breached about the noon on the 3rd November at three places causing considerable floods in Sankarabarani River and cutting the Grand Southern Trunk Road seriously at miles 85/1 and 86/4. It is now practically empty. The first breach is about 50 feet close to the left end of the spillway. Breach number 2 is 400 feet from the right end of the spillway and is 300 feet long. Breach number 3 is 600 feet further to the right opposite to the staff colony with a length of 800 feet. The staff colony and the workshop shed have been washed out. The villages of Athikuppam, Elay and Ganapathi have been severely affected by the Vidur breach. Loss of cattle has occurred but no loss of human life is reported.

The Chief Engineer (Irrigation) immediately on receipt of information rushed to the spot along with two special Superintending Engineers. The special division for the Tank restoration Scheme has been diverted to attend to these works. The machinery from Manimukthanadhi Reservoir Project was also diverted to attend to these repairs.

Government have ordered that damages caused to Irrigation works should be immediately assessed and immediate restorative action taken incurring essential expenditure and applying to Government for necessary additional appropriation later. For this purpose special strengthening of staff also has been done.

Loss of human life.—Following number of deaths have been reported either as a result of house collapse or as a result of electrocution :—

Madras City	20	(including 18 seamen of ship " Progress ").
Chingleput district ...	18	
South Arcot district ...	8	
North Arcot district ...	11	

Considerable damage has been caused to the installations in the Madras Port and it is estimated that the loss would be about Rs. 4 lakhs. Members are already aware of the fact that four ships ran aground as a result of the fury of the cyclone.

Six bogeys of the Rameswaram Passenger Train proceeding from Pakkam to Madurantakam on the afternoon of the 3rd November capsized due to the intensity of the cyclonic wind and fourteen passengers were injured.

[Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam] [8th November 1966

Almost all the fishermen colonies on the coastal belt have been razed to the ground and a number of fishing canoes and fishing nets, catamaran logs and three mechanised boats have been lost. No loss of life among the fishermen has been reported.

Deaths of cattle and considerable damage of poultry have also been reported by the Director of Animal Husbandry in all the affected areas. In regard to the damage to crops and plantations it is reported that over 1,25,000 cocoanu ttrees in Edakk nad area of Madurantakam taluk have been completely damaged. It is feared that in Madurantakam, Tindivanam, Villupuram and Wandiwash taluks paddy crops in an extent of about 30,000 to 50,000 acres may suffer either on account of sand casting or flooding due to tank breaches. More exact details on this aspect are awaited. Betel and sugarcane and casuarina have suffered considerably in the affected areas.

Considerable number of Panchayat Union Schools and Welfare Schools and other public buildings with tile or thatched roofs have suffered damage.

Sir, officials and non-officials have taken immediate necessary steps to rehabilitate the houseless people. Free distribution of cooked food and rice has been done in all the affected areas. In addition, in respect of every hut damaged, an amount of Rs. 30 towards reconstruction and Rs. 10 towards clothing is being given and the Collectors have been requested to see that these amounts are disbursed promptly. The Government have sanctioned a special advance of Rs. 1 lakh to each of the Collectors of Chingleput, South Arcot and Madras and they have the authority to incur further expenditure to the extent necessary. I have referred earlier to the special efforts taken to close the breaches in irrigation tanks and to restore road communications, which have been undertaken by the Public Works Department. Government in the Agriculture Department will take necessary steps for the supply of fresh seeds in respect of areas where crop has been washed away. Government will also give necssary loan facilities for agriculturists adversely affected and for fishermen for replacing their loss of boats and nets. Loans for repairing and rebuilding damaged tiled houses will also be given.

Sir, the magnitude of the problem has assumed much bigger proportion than we first expected. It is now estimated that the cost of rehabilitation including cost of restoration of irrigation tanks and restoration of communications may exceed Rs. 2 crores. This Government are addressing the Government of India about this matter and are requesting them for necessary assistance both by way of grant and loan. It is hoped that the Government of India will help us in this unforeseen calamity which has ravaged three districts of Madras, Chingleput and South Arcot.

Sir, I assure this House that this Government will take all the steps necessary for the rehabilitation of the affected people as expeditiously as possible.

8th November 1966]

திரு. இரா. நெடுஞ்செழியன் : கனம் அவைத் தலைவர் அவர்களே, கனம் முதல் அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் வெள்ளம், புயல் சேதம் பற்றி வைத்த அறிக்கை மீது பொதுவாக மன்ற அங்கத்தினர்களும், குறிப்பாக பாதிக்கப்பட்ட பகுதிகளைச் சார்ந்த உறுப்பினர்கள் தங்கள் விவரங்களைத் தரவும், விளக்கங்கள் வைக்கவும், பரிந்துரைகள் செய்யவும் வாய்ப்புகள் ஏற்படுத்தும் வகையில் நாளை இரண்டு மணி நேரம் ஒதுக்கித் தந்தால் அதில் கருத்துக்கள் வழங்க வாய்ப்பு ஏற்படும். அது மட்டுமல்லாமல் முதல் அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் படித்த அறிக்கையின் படி இன்றே கனம் உறுப்பினர்களுக்குக் கிடைக்க வழிவகை செய்தால் தாங்கள் அதுபற்றி கருத்துக்கள் சொல்ல வாய்ப்பு ஏற்படும் அதற்கு வழி செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். 10–00 a.m.

கனம் திரு. எம். பக்தவத்சலம் : இந்த அறிக்கையின் நகல் எல்லா அங்கத்தினர்களுக்கும் அளிக்கப்படும். இன்றைக்கு இருக்கிற அஜெண்டா இன்று முடிந்துவிடும் என்று நினைக்கிறேன். நாளை இரண்டு மணி நேரம் அல்லது ஒரு மணி நேரம் வேண்டுமானால் விவாதம் வைத்துக் கொள்ளலாம்.

IV.—PRESENTATION OF REPORT

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES ON DIRECTORATE OF HANDLOOMS.

SRI P. RAMACHANDRAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to present the Second Report of the Committee on Estimates (1966-67) on the Directorate of Handlooms.

V.—RULING *RE* DIVISION DURING GUILLOTINE

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members are aware that on the 28th March 1966, during the last Budget Session, the hon. Member, Sri K. A. Mathialagan asked for a division on a Demand after the guillotine was applied, and that was refused by the chair. He raised a point of order on this which I promised to examine, and give my opinion later on.

The hon. Member, Sri Mathialagan stated that Rule 155 of the Madras Assembly Rules enables the Speaker to terminate a discussion or debate on a Demand and did not exclude the right of the Member to demand for a division. The hon. Members, Sri M. Kalyanasundaram and Sri M. Karunanithi also supported this view and said that the application of guillotine related only to the termination of the discussion.

When other Legislatures were consulted, I find that there is no specific instance on the point for decision before us. In the House of Commons, guillotine motions are a form of closure applied to the discussion on Bills, and there is no definite guidance for us from there also. Therefore, I have to change my views and to decide that, if a Member wants a division after the guillotine is applied, it has to be allowed. Any cut motion already moved, before guillotine is applied, will also be put. But no cut motions not moved, will be allowed to be moved, nor put to the House